Amendment To The Claims

1. (currently amended): A method for <u>retransmitting a speech packet</u> ~~operating a vocoder system~~, the method comprising:

      receiving <u>at a speech transmitting device</u> a first negative acknowledgement from a receiving communication device indicative of a corrupted first speech packet transmission;

      retrieving a first speech packet associated with the first negative acknowledgement;

      compressing the first speech packet to form a replacement speech packet;

      encoding a current segment of speech responsive to the first negative acknowledgement to form a current speech packet;

      combining the current speech packet with the replacement speech packet to form a combined speech packet; and

      transmitting the combined speech packet.

2. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the current segment of speech is encoded at a second rate.

3. (currently amended):   The method of claim 1, wherein the first speech packet is encoded at a first rate and the replacement speech packet is compressed at a second rate <u>that is different from the first rate</u>.

4. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a first negative acknowledgement from the receiving communication device indicative of a corrupted first speech packet transmission further comprises:

      determining the first speech packet is corrupted at a receiver buffer of the receiving communication device; and

      transmitting the first negative acknowledgement to an initiating communication device.

5. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein retrieving the first speech packet associated with the first negative acknowledgement further comprises:

determining a sequence number m of the corrupted speech packet referenced by the first negative acknowledgement;

retrieving the first speech packet from a buffer in an initiating communication device; and

determining if a data rate of the retrieved first speech packet is a first rate.

6. (original): The method of claim 5 wherein determining the sequence number m further comprises:

determining a receive time of the first negative acknowledgement.

7. (original): The method of claim 5, further comprising:

determining whether a preceding speech packet has been received at the receiving communication device.

8. (original): The method of claim 7, wherein determining whether a preceding speech packet has been received at the receiving communication device further comprises:

determining if a second negative acknowledgement was received for the preceding speech packet having a sequence number m-1; and

recovering speech parameters for the preceding packet if the second negative acknowledgement was not received for the preceding speech packet.

9. (original): The method of claim 8, wherein compressing the first speech packet to form a replacement speech packet, further comprises:

stripping speech parameters from the retrieved first speech packet;

generating replacement speech parameters from the stripped speech parameters from the retrieved first speech packet and the recovered speech parameters from the preceding speech packet; and

applying the generated replacement speech parameters to the stripped retrieved first speech packet to form the replacement speech packet.

10. (original): The method of 9, wherein the stripped parameters include line spectral pairs.

11. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein encoding a current segment of speech responsive to the first negative acknowledgement to form a current speech packet further comprises:

triggering a control signal to initiate a recompression/rate reduction algorithm responsive to the first negative acknowledgement;

sending the control signal to a speech encoder; and

encoding the current speech packet by applying a rate reduction algorithm.

12. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein transmitting the combined speech packet further comprises:

embedding traffic type information to indicate the presence of the replacement speech packet and the current speech packet.

13. (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the traffic type information comprises of primary traffic indication and secondary traffic indication.

14. – 20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended):   A computer ~~readable~~ usable medium containing ~~storing a~~ computer executable instructions to perform a method comprising ~~program for operating a vocoder system comprising:~~

~~computer readable code for~~ receiving at a speech transmitting device a first negative acknowledgement from a receiving communication device indicative of a corrupted first speech packet transmission;

~~computer readable code for~~ retrieving a first speech packet associated with the first negative acknowledgement;

~~computer readable code for~~ compressing the first speech packet to form a replacement speech packet;

~~computer readable code for~~ encoding a current segment of speech responsive to the first negative acknowledgement to form a current speech packet;

~~computer readable code for~~ combining the current speech packet with the replacement speech packet to form a combined speech packet; and

~~computer readable code for~~ transmitting the combined speech packet.

22. (currently amended):   The computer readable ~~usable~~ medium ~~storing a computer program~~ of claim 21 wherein the method, further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~computer readable code for~~ determining the first speech packet is corrupted at a receiver buffer of the receiving communication device; and

~~computer readable code for~~ transmitting the first negative acknowledgement to an initiating communication device.

23. (currently amended):   The computer ~~readable~~ <u>usable</u> medium ~~storing a computer program~~ of claim 21 <u>wherein the method,</u> further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~computer readable code for~~ determining a sequence number m of the corrupted speech packet referenced by the first negative acknowledgement;

~~computer readable code for~~ retrieving the first speech packet from a buffer in an initiating communication device; and

~~computer readable code for~~ determining if a data rate of the retrieved speech packet is a first rate.

24. (currently amended):   The computer ~~readable~~ <u>usable</u> medium ~~storing a computer program~~ of claim 23 <u>wherein the method,</u> further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~computer readable code for~~ determining a receive time of the first negative acknowledgement.

25. (currently amended):   The computer ~~readable~~ <u>usable</u> medium ~~storing a computer program~~ of claim 23 <u>wherein the method,</u> further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~computer readable code for~~ determining whether a preceding speech packet has been received at the receiving communication device.

26. (currently amended):   The computer ~~readable~~ <u>usable</u> medium ~~storing a computer program~~ of claim 25 <u>wherein the method,</u> further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~computer readable code for~~ determining if a second negative acknowledgement was received for the preceding speech packet having a sequence number m-1; and

~~computer readable code for~~ recovering speech parameters for the preceding packet if the second negative acknowledgement was not received for the preceding speech packet.

27. (currently amended):   The computer readable ~~usable~~ medium ~~storing a computer program~~ of claim 26 wherein the method~~,~~ further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~computer readable code for~~ stripping speech parameters from the retrieved first speech packet;

~~computer readable code for~~ generating replacement speech parameters from the stripped speech parameters from the retrieved first speech packet and the recovered speech parameters from the preceding speech packet; and

~~computer readable code for~~ applying the generated replacement speech parameters to the stripped retrieved first speech packet to form the replacement speech packet.

28. (currently amended):   The computer readable ~~usable~~ medium ~~storing a computer program~~ of claim 21 wherein the method~~,~~ further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~computer readable code for~~ triggering a control signal to initiate a recompression/rate reduction algorithm responsive to the first negative acknowledgement;

~~computer readable code for~~ sending the control signal to a speech encoder; and

~~computer readable code for~~ encoding the current speech packet by applying a rate reduction algorithm.

29. (currently amended):   The computer readable ~~usable~~ medium ~~storing a computer program~~ of claim 21 wherein the method~~,~~ further ~~comprising~~ comprises:

~~computer readable code for~~ embedding traffic type information to indicate the presence of the replacement speech packet and the current speech packet.

30. – 32 (cancelled)